## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

- 1-6. (Canceled)
- 7. (Previously Presented) An indigo-dyed cloth processed by the method according to claim 8.
- 8. (Currently Amended) A <u>processing</u> of method <u>of-processing</u> for an indigo-dyed cloth, wherein said method comprises <u>comprising</u>:

coating the <u>surface of an</u> indigo-dyed cloth with an aqueous solution;— <u>containing one or</u> more kinds of materials selected from the group consisting of zinc nitrate and ammonium nitrate at a concentration of 63.68 g/L to 200 g/L as a nitrogen-based oxidizing agent, and further containing a thickener at a coating amount of from 100 to 180 g/m<sup>2</sup>;

drying the coated cloth; and after coating; and

heating the dried, coated cloth, as a final step.

wherein said-aqueous-solution-comprises-one or more compounds-selected-from the group consisting of: zinc nitrate and ammonium nitrate,

wherein said-aqueous solution further comprises a thickener at a coating amount of from 100 g/m<sup>2</sup> to 180 g/m<sup>2</sup>, and

wherein said compounds are present at from 63 g/L to 200 g/L as a nitrogen-based oxidizing agent.

9. (New) A processing method for an indigo-dyed cloth, comprising: coating the surface of an indigo-dyed cloth with an aqueous solution containing zinc nitrate at a concentration of 63.68 g/L to 95.52 g/L as a nitrogen-based oxidizing agent, and further containing a thickener at a coating amount of from 100 to 180 g/m<sup>2</sup>;

drying the cloth after coating; and heating the dried, coated cloth as a final step.

- 10. (New) The processing method of claim 9, wherein the indigo-dyed cloth comprises cellulose-based natural fibers, cellulose-based recycled fibers, cellulose-based semi-synthesized fibers or blends thereof.
- 11. (New) The processing method of claim 9, wherein the thickener comprises a methyl cellulose-based thickener.

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